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To: Mima Guilles
Cc: Jennifer Garstang
Subject: Public Comment for C/CAG Board Meeting on September 9, 2021
Date: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:36:33 PM

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Please see our public comment for Item 3. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda at the C/CAG Board Meeting on September 9, 2021. Please confirm when you receive and put this in the public record.

Dear C/CAG Board,

We are writing on behalf of a group of county residents, local officials, planners, educators, and advocates for a sustainable and equitable future. Last week, we submitted a public comment to your staff on 101 Managed Lanes North of 380 project in opposition to any alternative that widens US-101. While we agree that carpool lanes and Express Lanes can be effective tools for managing traffic flow and generating transportation funding, widening US-101 is contrary to the environmental and equity goals of our state, region, and county as it will cause people to drive more often. This phenomenon, known as induced demand, will reduce or negate the benefits of any widening options, undermining billions of dollars in existing and planned transit investment and harming our environment, public health, and most vulnerable communities, particularly the Equity Priority Communities of Downtown South San Francisco and Bayshore.

We wish that we could trust that Caltrans will perform an accurate assessment without your oversight, but they have historically underestimated induced demand, including the related 101 Managed Lanes Project in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties that this board oversees. In the recent Draft and Final EIR/EAs, Caltrans dismissed the possibility of induced demand, despite the UC Davis National Center for Sustainable Transportation's Induced Travel Calculator's estimate of 164.3 million additional Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) per year.

This is why your involvement is so important to this effort. We understand congestion is a problem and that federal and state policies incentivize widening freeways. But continuing to widen US-101 at the cost of our environment, public health, and communities is not the answer. We urge you to do everything in your power to halt projects expanding automobile infrastructure and compel Caltrans to shift investments to sustainable transportation options like transit, carpooling, walking, and bicycling. Thank you.

Darryl Yip
Transportation planner and South San Francisco resident

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